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Japanese Patent Appln. No. 2006-537241

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Article Applied: Patent Law Articles 29.(2), 36

This application should be rejected for the reasons given below. In response, the applicant may file an Argument and/or Amendment within three months from the mailing date.

Reason I

The invention(s) of the claim(s) is considered to be readily thought of from the disclosure in the undermentioned publication circulated in Japan or in foreign countries prior to the filing of this application. Therefore, this application falls under the provisions of Article 29.(2) of the Patent Law and thus is not acceptable.

Remark I

Claims 1-20

Cited reference 1: WO03/026374

Cited reference 2: JP-A-11-307991

Cited reference 3: JP2001-308587

REMARKS

The cited reference 1 discloses the constitution for folding the released portion of the cover tape (corresponding to "cover" of the present invention) to the

standing posture during passing through the picking position by releasing (corresponding to "separating" of the present invention) one side (corresponding to "first rim portion") of the cover tape (corresponding to "cover" of the present invention) from the carrier tape (corresponding to "carrier tape" of the present invention) by passing through the exposure device in the feeding direction of the component tape (see the publication page 19, lines 11-20 and Fig. 5).

It is a well-known to fold in face of at least two parts underside of the cover (see the cited reference 2 the paragraph 0046, Fig. 9, the cited reference 3 the paragraph 0051, 0073-0076, Figs. 4 and 14).

Reason II

This application does not satisfy the requirements prescribed in Article 36 of the Patent Law in the following respects:

Remark II

• Claims 1, 2, 5, 8, 13 and 16

The recitation "which rim portions are arranged on a first and second side of the sequence of components, respectively" is not clear because "which rim portions" is made clear in pointing at what, and the relation of "the sequence of components" and "the carrier tape" is not clear and the technical meaning is not understandable as a whole.

• Claims 1, 2, 5, 8, 13 and 16

The relation between "a first side " and "a second side" and "a first portion" and "a second portion" is not clear.

• Claim 1

The recitation "before reaching the picking position, while being raised to an upright position" is not clear because the relation between "before reaching the picking position" and "while being raised to an upright position" is not clear.

- Claims 4, 11 and 19

The recitation "between about 2.5 and 6, preferably between about 4 and 5" is not clear in the invention specifying matter.

- Claims 4, 11 and 19

The word "lateral direction" is not clear in the direction.

- Claim 10

The word "the...cover tape" does not have antecedent and so not clear.

- Claims 12 and 20

The word "a self contained unit" is not clear in technical meaning.

- Claim 18

The word "the tape guide wall" does not have antecedent.

Therefore, the inventions of claims 1-20 are not clear.

List of cited References

1. WO03/026374
2. JP-A-11-307991
3. JP2001-308587

Record of Prior Art Searched

Technical Field Searched: IPC H05K 13/00-13/04

The record of Prior Art Searched does not constitute any reason for rejecting this application.